

## Message Text

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02840 201905Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

DEPT FOR EUR/CAN

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:N/A

SUBJ: PRESS CONFERENCE MACEACHEN JULY 12

FOLLOWING IS PRESS CONFERENCE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS, ALLAN J. MACEACHEN, AFTER QUESTION PERIOD, HOUSE  
OF COMMONS, OTTAWA, JULY 12, 1976:

Q. "... MR. MACEACHEN, PRESIDENT FORD SAID THIS MORNING  
THAT HE OPPOSES THE IOC'S COMMITTEE'S DECISION AND HE RECOM-  
MENDED TO THE AMERICANS, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NO POWER ABOUT HOW  
THEIR COMMITTEE VOTES, THAT HE HOPED THEY'D VOTE AGAINST IT.

A. "WELL I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE QUITE UNFORTUNATE IF  
THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE INTER-  
NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE TO PERMIT THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES  
TO COMPETE UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP AND THE FLAG OF THE INTER-  
NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE -- IF THAT DECISION WERE TURNED DOWN

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02840 201905Z

BY THE COMMITTEE ITSELF. AND I'M EVEN MORE

"SURPRISED THAT THE HEAD OF ANY GOVERNMENT WOULD SUGGEST  
TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF HIS NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HOW  
THEY OUGHT TO VOTE. WE HAVE BEEN SCRUPULOUS IN AVOIDING TAK-

ING, EVEN SUGGESTING, TO OUR OWN NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, OR THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA ON THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, WHAT POSITION HE OUGHT TO TAKE IN ANY OF THESE MATTERS. CERTAINLY, WHEN THE HEAD OF A GOVERNMENT SUGGESTS TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF A NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HOW THEY OUGHT TO VOTE, THAT REALLY IS BRINGING POLITICS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.

Q. "IS CANADA SATISFIED WITH WHAT THE IOC COMMITTEE HAD TO SAY? HAVE OUR CONDITIONS BEEN MET AS FAR AS THE TAIWANESE ARE CONCERNED.

A. "THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, LORD KILLANIN HAS COMMUNICATED TO US A PROPOSAL THAT WAS ADOPTED, I UNDERSTAND, UNANIMOUSLY BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO THE EFFECT THAT THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES COMPETE UNDER THE OLYMPIC FLAG. THAT PROPOSAL IS ABSOLUTELY ACCEPTABLE TO US. WE HAVE SAID THAT WE WOULD ADMIT THEM UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS AND WE HOPE THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL APPROVE THAT RECOMMENDATION TOMORROW, AND THAT THE OLYMPICS WILL GO AHEAD WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES.

Q. "PRIOR TO THAT DECISION, WERE YOU IN ANY WAY PRESSURED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE YOUR MIND ON YOUR DECISION OR DID YOU HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH THEM AT ALL?

A. "NO, WE HAVE HAD NO PRESSURE FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WHATSOEVER ON THIS POINT. WE HAVE MADE UP OUR OWN MIND ON THE BASIS OF OUR OWN POLICY, AND WE HAVE PUT IT BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, BUT I MUST SAY WE HAVE NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO ANY PRESSURE FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Q. "HOW ABOUT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, SIR?

A. "WELL, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAVE MADE KNOWN THEIR WISHES, IN WHICH WAS INCLUDED THE REQUEST THAT WE SHOULD BAR TOTALLY AND COMPLETELY THE ADMISSION OF THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES, PARTICIPATING UNDER ANY SPONSORSHIP. AND WE, OF COURSE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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PAGE 03 OTTAWA 02840 201905Z

HAVE REFUSED TO DO THAT. WE ARE PREPARED TO ADMIT THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES AS LONG AS THEY DON'T PUT THEMSELVES FORWARD AS REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL OF CHINA, AND THE PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE MEETS OUR REQUIREMENTS A HUNDRED PER CENT. SO, WE HAVE A FORMULA NOW THAT WILL PERMIT THESE ATHLETES TO PARTICIPATE, IF IT IS SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.

Q. "THE ONE GROUP THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE SUPPORTING THIS MOVE, MR. MACEACHEN, ARE THE TAIWANESE THEMSELVES. THEY SAY THAT IF THE DECISION IS ENDORSED BY THE FULL COMMITTEE, THEY'RE GOING TO GO HOME.

A. "WELL, I WOULD ASK, THEN, WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO THE TAIWANESE ATHELETES: TO COMPETE, OR TO MAKE A POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION.

Q. "DOES THAT SAME ADVICE GO TO THE TANZANIAN ATHLETES AND OTHER, EAST AFRICANS INVITED THAT MIGHT WITHDRAW, SIR?

A. "WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO BE INVOLVED WITH THOSE QUESTIONS, I HAVEN'T FORMED A POLICY ON THAT, BUT CERTAINLY IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IF THE MAJOR INTEREST IS IN SPORTS AND ATHLETIC COMPETITIONS THAT THERE IS NOW A FORMULA BY WHICH THAT WILL TAKE PLACE, AND IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BY LORD KILLANIN AND HIS BOARD MAY BE THE FIRST STEP IN WHAT COULD BE A FUTURE DE-POLITICIZING OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC MOVEMENT, OR A DE-NATIONALIZING OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIONS.

Q. "COULD YOU EXPAND ON THAT MR. MACHEN? ...YES...

A. "BECAUSE THE TAIWANESE ATHLETES WOULD COMPETE UNDER THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC FLAG, AS SPONSORED BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.

Q. "YOU'RE SAYING THEN, THAT PERHAPS IN FUTURE ALL COUNTIRES MIGHT COMPETE ON THAT BASIS?

A. "WELL,I'M SAYING IT'S CERTAINLY A STEP THAT OUGHT TO BE LOOKED AT.

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PAGE 04 OTTAWA 02840 201905Z

Q. "MR. MACEACHEN, COULD YOU SAY UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES DID THE PEKING GOVERNMENT MAKE ITS REPRESENTATIONS TO YOU THAT YOU WERE DISCUSSING EARLIER? WAS IT HERE IN OTTAWA, THROUGH THEIR EMBASSY HERE IN OTTAWA?

A. "YES, I BELIEVE IT WAS THROUGH A NOTE PRESENTED TO ME THROUGH THE EMBASSY HERE IN OTTAWA.

Q. "COULD YOU SAY WHAT DAY THAT WAS APPROXIMATELY?

A. "IT'S WITHIN THE LAST SHORT PERIOD, I CAN'T REMEMBER EXACTLY."

COMMENT:

MACEACHEN WAS INFORMED OF FORD'S REMARKS AFTER THE COMMONS SESSION BY A TV REPORTER WHO SAID MACEACHEN'S REACTION WAS ONE OF AMAZEMENT. AT THE REPORTER'S SUGGESTION, MACEACHEN THEN WENT DOWN TO THE MEDIA INTERVIEW ROOM TO MAKE HIS REACTION PUBLIC. AT THE TIME OF THIS IMPROMPTU EXCHANGE WITH THE PRESS, THE MIN-

ISTER HAD NOT ACTUALLY SEEN THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS BUT WAS  
REACTING SOLELY TO WHAT THE REPORTERS PRESENT TOLD HIM FORD WAS  
QUOTED ON THE WIRES AS HAVING SAID.  
ENDERS

NOTE BY OC/T: ADDED INFO ADDEES PLS TAKE AS ORIGINAL

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